

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 11-18, 20-22, and 27-32 are currently pending in the application; and Claims 1 and 17 are amended by the present amendment. Support for amended Claims 1 and 17 can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.¹ No new matter is presented.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-2, 4-6, 11-18, 20-22 and 17-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over www.bellagio.com (hereinafter, “Bellagio”) in view of www.westwardho.com (hereinafter, “Westwardho”). The outstanding Official Action notes that “The WayBack Machine” (www.archive.org) was used to obtain an archived copy of Bellagio on May 15, 2001, and Westwardho on May 5, 2001.

The outstanding Official Action cites Bellagio as disclosing the Applicant’s invention with the exception of updating the calendar section upon selection of a room in the inventory information section. The Official Action cites Westwardho as disclosing this claimed feature and states that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the reference teachings to arrive at Applicant’s claims. Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 1 and 17 state novel features not taught or rendered obvious by Bellagio and/or Westwardho.

The present invention is directed to a reservation method (e.g., as recited in independent Claim 1), as well as a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium implementing a reservation method (e.g., as recited in independent Claim 17). Independent Claim 1 recites displaying *in a single window* data in a calendar section, an inventory information section, and a reservation information section. Claim 1 is specifically

¹ E.g., specification, Figs. 6-15.

amended to recite that the ***reservation information section is configured to receive payment information input by a user***, as depicted in a non-limiting exemplary embodiment at Figs. 6-

15. The calendar section is configured to indicate consecutive dates available for reservation, and the inventory information section is configured to indicate a room available for reservation. Claim 1 further recites automatically updating the inventory information section to indicate the room available for reservation when consecutive dates are selected in the calendar section and automatically updating the calendar section to indicate consecutive dates available for reservation when the room is selected.

The requirements for a *prima facie* case of obviousness are (1) there must be some suggestion or motivation in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine the reference teachings, (2) there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and (3) the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. It is respectfully submitted that the applied references fail to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness, because neither Bellagio nor Westwardho, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

Specifically, amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a reservation method, comprising:

displaying ***in a single window*** data in a calendar section...
an inventory information section... and ***a reservation information section configured to receive payment information input by a user***...

Amended Claim 17 recites substantially similar features, but is directed to a computer program, as noted above. Therefore, the arguments presented below are also applicable to amended Claim 17.

Turning to the applied primary reference, Bellagio depicts an Internet reservation site having calendar section, inventory section and a “Summary” section that indicates the price for a reservation based on user selections input to the calendar and inventory section. The “Summary” portion of the Bellagio interface includes only the selected room type, the

duration of the reservation (number of nights), and the price for the reservation. In order to complete the reservation process and enter payment information, however, the user of the Bellagio site must select “Continue” in order to proceed to a different window and complete the reservation request.

In contrast, amended Claim 1 recites “displaying *in a single window* data in a calendar section... an inventory information section... and *a reservation information section configured to receive payment information input by a user*”. As depicted in an exemplary, non-limiting embodiment in Fig. 6, the reservation section (606) includes an interface allowing a user to enter payment information and to complete the reservation by interfacing only with a single window. Bellagio, instead, only provides a summary of the potential purchase in the “Summary” portion and requires that the user select “Continue” to enter payment information and complete the reservation process.

Thus, Bellagio fails to teach or suggest “displaying *in a single window* data in a calendar section... an inventory information section... and *a reservation information section configured to receive payment information input by a user*”, as recited in amended Claim 1.

Westwardho, the secondary reference, depicts an Internet reservation user interface including an amenity section, which allows a user to select specific amenities (e.g., room type, date, number of guests, number of nights, etc.) for a reservation, and a calendar section that displays available nights and prices based on the inputs to the amenity section. The user first enters specific amenity information, then selects “Price Vacation” before they are prompted to enter information to complete the reservation request, similar to the Bellagio reference discussed above.

However, amended Claim 1 recites “displaying *in a single window* data in a calendar section... an inventory information section... and *a reservation information section configured to receive payment information input by a user*”. An exemplary, non-limiting

embodiment is depicted in Fig. 6, as discussed above. In contrast, Westwardho requires a user to select "Price Vacation" in order to proceed in the reservation process. Thus, Westwardho fails to teach or suggest that *a reservation information section configured to receive payment information input by a user*, is provided *in a single window*, with a calendar section and an inventory information section, as recited in amended Claim 1.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of independent Claims 1 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn. Applicant respectfully assert that dependent Claims 2, 4-6, 11-16, 18, 20-22, and 27-32 are allowable at least for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they respectively depend.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-2, 4-6, 11-18, 20-22, and 27-32 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

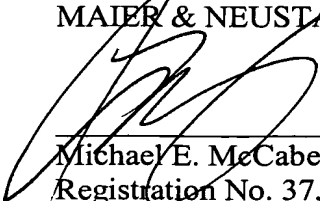
Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Michael E. McCabe, Jr.
Registration No. 37,182
Attorney of Record

Andrew T. Harry
Registration No. 56,959